

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A precoat filter cartridge having
a plurality of holding elements, ~~such as supporting rods,~~
a top piece for fixing the cartridge to a dividing wall of a cartridge filter,
which top piece is connected to one end of the ~~supporting rods~~ holding elements,
a terminating piece for dividing off a cartridge internal space with respect to
an unfiltrate space,
a wire ~~being~~ wound helically onto the holding elements, so that a gap for the
passage of liquid is formed between adjacent turns of the wire, the wire forming a
cartridge wall as a substrate for a precoat filter layer,
the outer diameter of the cartridge being less than 30 mm.
2. (original) The invention of claim 1, wherein said outer diameter is between
20 mm and 28 mm.
3. (original) The invention of claim 1, wherein said outer diameter is about 25 mm.
4. (currently amended) A precoat filter cartridge according to claim + 17, wherein
the precoat filter cartridge has less than 8 supporting rods.
5. (currently amended) The invention of claim + 17, wherein the precoat filter
cartridge has 4 to 7 supporting rods.
6. (currently amended) The invention of claim + 17, wherein the precoat filter
cartridge has 6 supporting rods.
7. (currently amended) The invention of claim + 17, wherein, on a side oriented
radially inwards, the supporting rods have a cross-sectional taper.

8. (currently amended) The invention of claim ~~1~~ 17, wherein, on a side oriented radially inwards, the supporting rods have a rounded portion.
9. (original) The invention of claim 1, wherein the terminating piece tapers towards one end.
10. (original) The invention of claim 1, wherein the top piece has a conical sealing surface at an end that can be brought into contact with the dividing wall.
11. (currently amended) A precoat cartridge filter having
a filter vessel with a dividing wall, which divides the filter vessel into an unfiltrate space and into a filtrate space, and
a number of precoat filter cartridges fixed to the dividing wall, ~~in particular precoat filter cartridges according to claim 1,~~ extending from the dividing wall into the unfiltrate space,
wherein the product of cartridge diameter in mm and cartridge spacing in mm is between 1000 mm² and 2300 mm², per meter of filter cartridge length and per m² of cross-sectional area of the unfiltrate space.
12. (original) The invention of claim 11, wherein said cartridge spacing is between 1500 mm² and 2000 mm², per meter of filter cartridge length and per m² of cross-sectional area of the unfiltrate space.
13. (original) The invention of claim 11, wherein the total surface of the cartridge wall of all precoat filter cartridges is more than 10 m², per meter of filter cartridge length and per m² of cross-sectional area of the unfiltrate space.
14. (original) The invention of claim 11, wherein the total surface of the cartridge wall of all precoat filter cartridges is more than 12 m², per meter of filter cartridge

length and per m² of cross-sectional area of the unfiltrate space.

15 - 16. (canceled)

17. (new) The invention of claim 1, wherein said holding elements are supporting rods.

18. (new) A precoat filter cartridge having
a plurality of holding elements,
a top piece for fixing the cartridge to a dividing wall of a cartridge filter,
which top piece is connected to one end of the holding elements,
a terminating piece for dividing off a cartridge internal space with respect to
an unfiltrate space,
a wire wound helically onto the holding elements, so that a gap for the passage
of liquid is formed between adjacent turns of the wire, the wire forming a cartridge
wall as a substrate for a precoat filter layer,
the outer diameter of the cartridge being less than 30 mm, and
wherein on a side oriented radially inwards, the holding elements have a
cross-sectional taper.